



**LOUISBURG PARK AND TREE BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, June 11, 2018**

The Park Board of Louisburg, Kansas met at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers with Vice Chairperson Jack Kline presiding.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Board Members:** Wayne Knop, Michael McClellan, and Ernie Reinhart

**City Mayor:** Marty Southard

**City Council Representative:** Steve Town

**City Administrator:** Nathan Law

**City Staff:** Jean Carder

**Rec Commission:** Diana Moore

**Recording Secretary:** Rusty Whitham

**Visitors:** Ginni Rogers

**Item 1: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Item 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:**

A motion was made by Ernie Reinhart to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Michael McClellan. Motion carried 4-0.

**Item 3: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Wayne Knop to approve the minutes from the May 14, 2018 Park and Tree Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Michael McClellan. Motion carried 4-0.

**Item 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Persons who wish to address the Park Board regarding items not on the agenda may do so at this time. Speakers will be limited to three (3) minutes. Any presentation is for informational purposes only. No action will be taken. None.

**NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:**

**Item 5:** Discussion concerning the 2018 Aquatic Center Survey.

Jean Carder mentioned that the City Council is exploring additional amenities at Aquatic Center and would like input from the community on current pool operations and what expanded offerings might be desired. A survey was created and inserted with the June utility bills. Additional surveys can be found online or at City Hall. Surveys are to be returned to City Hall, dropped off at the Louisburg Aquatic Center or emailed to: [jcarder@louisburgkansas.gov](mailto:jcarder@louisburgkansas.gov).

Ernie Reinhart asked if the City Council approved the survey format. Administrator Law replied by stating that the Council is fine with the concept and staff has been tasked to move forward with the survey. Reinhart mentioned that he likes the format but feels that the survey is a little too long.

No further discussion occurred on this topic.

**Item 6:** Discussion concerning a request to install new backstops and fencing on “C” ballfield/Softball field in L/Y Park.

Michael McClellan mentioned that four bids for new backstops and fencing on “C” were received:

Tom Burge Fence and Iron, Inc. - \$25,950.00

Challenger Fence Co. - \$37,025.00

Guier Fence - \$36,070.00

Perfect Fence - \$34,500.00

It was noted that Tom Burge Fence submitted the lowest bid. Wayne Knop asked if the bid includes replacing the wood on the dugouts with metal. McClellan stated that he believes it does but wasn't sure. Knop then asked if some of this cost be paid by the Louisburg Rec Commission. Administrator Law recommends asking the Louisburg Rec Commission if they can contribute some of the funds. Knop suggested that funding for such projects is one of the reasons why the Louisburg Rec Commission was created.

Knop asked how long these bids are good for. Administrator Law mentioned that bids are typically good for 60-90 days. If we have to wait for the end of the year the cost increase should be minimal.

Administrator Law then explained that the board needs to determine if they want to move forward with a recommendation to the city council. This recommendation should include a priority of projects that need to be accomplished. Any recommendation to the council will not allocate funds. It would only be a recommendation from the Park and Tree Board to the City Council.

Jack Kline and Wayne Knop were concerned about the chain-link fence along the backstop area. Both wanted to know how the bottom of the backstop will be secured. Michael McClellan mentioned that he can reach out to the contractor for clarification. Kline recommends that the chain-link fencing be secured at the bottom if the board moves forward with the replacement of the backstop and fencing on field “C”.

After additional discussion Ernie Reinhart made a motion to replace the backstop and fencing on field “C” and to accept the bid from Tom Burge Fence and Iron as submitted (\$25,950.00). This motion stipulates that the bottom of fencing along the backstop be secured. The motion was seconded by Wayne Knop. The motion passed 4-0.

This recommendation will be forwarded to the City Council for further consideration and possible inclusion into the 2019 City Budget.

**Item 7:** Discussion concerning a proposed dog park in L/Y Park.

Administrator Law explained that a dog park is a City Council priority item for 2019 and was discussed during the Master Park Plan earlier this year. L/Y Park was the most feasible location for this park.

Ernie Reinhart confirmed that a dog park requires the procurement of fencing and some gates. Reinhart then went on to itemize the items currently in the park requiring repair. Most notably the ballfields in L/Y Park are in disrepair. Reinhart suggested spending money repairing existing ballfields rather than building a dog park. Reinhart ended by stating that we need to maintain the current infrastructure before we build something new.

Administrator Law mentioned that the ballfields have been maintained. He stated that backstops have been repaired and netting has been replaced over the years. In addition, the bases have been replaced and the dugouts on “A” have been reconstructed. Mr. Law disagrees that infrastructure in the parks is being neglected and not being maintained at all. Mr. Law explained that the board has been tasked to help identify projects that need to be accomplished and the city is responsible for maintaining the existing infrastructure as needed. Lastly, Mr. Law reminded the board that a dog park is a city council item request that needs to be discussed.

Wayne Knop asked if L/Y Park is a good place for a dog park. Mr. Law replied by mentioning that every location will have its pros and cons. Mr. Law agrees that L/Y Park is not centrally located. However, if the dog park is located in L/Y Park it will not adversely impact any residential neighborhoods. In addition, L/Y Park has sufficient space for a dog park. The 1.2 acre area is secluded with tree lines that would naturally separate it from other activities that are occurring in the park. The proposed location is close enough to a newly installed parking lot. Law ended by stating that this site is a solid recommendation for a dog park.

Wayne Knop mentioned that a dog park at the proposed location may take away from an area that is being used by the Boy Scouts during their annual jamboree campout. It was mentioned by multiple people in attendance that the Boy Scouts haven’t used L/Y Park for jamboree in years.

It was mentioned that the Boys Scouts can construct training obstacles in the dog park for potential Eagle projects.

Michael McClellan asked will we have to install additional infrastructure like trails to the new dog park. Law stated that there is a primitive trail existing that leads people from the new parking lot to the proposed dog park. The trail may need some mulch or gravel. It was mentioned that we do have volunteers that will clear the existing trail.

Knop said the area near the Aquatic Center would be better suited for a dog park.

No further discussion occurred. Jack Kline asked if anyone wished to make a motion recommending a dog park in L/Y Park. There was no motion made. This discussion item was then closed.

**Item 8:** Discussion with Rec Director Diana Moore concerning possible Eagle Projects.

Diana Moore mentioned that she was recently approached by some scouts concerning potential Eagle Scouts Projects. Some potential project ideas include a referee shelter at the soccer fields in L/Y Park, trail markers at the lake, signage for the flag football fields at L/Y Park, and refurbish the soccer goals in L/Y Park.

Moore stated that the Boy Scouts have completed some work at the ballfields and concession area last weekend.

Ginni Rogers state that a local scout representative mentioned that Eagle Projects need to be completed by their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. Rogers also stated that they would like do some projects this summer. It was explained that the potential eagle projects need to be approved by the city first and then approved by the Boy Scouts Regional Council before work can begin.

Ernie Reinhart stated that the Park and Tree Board could approve the suggested projects conceptually but would need construction plans with greater detail before they can give they can give the green light to move forward.

After additional discussion Wayne Knop made a motion to approve the following Eagle Projects so that the scouts can obtain approval through their Regional Council. The scouts are required to return and present their projects again to the Park and Tree Board with greater detail prior to construction:

- Construction of a referee shelter at the soccer fields in L/Y Park
- Construction of trail markers at the lake
- Construction of signage for the flag football fields at L/Y Park
- Refurbishment of soccer goals in L/Y Park

Ernie Reinhart seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Item 9:** Discussion concerning the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fishing Derby. This event will occur on Saturday June 16, 2018 at the City Lake.

A brief discussion concerning this event occurred. It was the general consensus that this year's fishing derby was on track.

### **REPORTS:**

**Item 10:** Individual area of responsibility updates:

Bob Bazin (Chairperson) – Not Present

Lee Baer (Aquatic Center) – Not Present

Ernie Reinhart (City Park) – Reinhart mentioned that half of the new playground equipment has been installed. Reinhart wanted to know when the new basketball goal will be installed. In addition, he mentioned that the park has been vandalized with graffiti. The trees around the tennis court needs to be trimmed and the fence around the gazebo needs to be repaired. Lastly, there is a roof tie down that needs to be removed or repaired and the foliage and bushes needs to be worked on.

Wayne Knop (Ron Weers Park) – Knop wanted to know what the status of aerator for the lake. It was explained that the city applied for a grant and we should know if we are awarded any money sometime in August.

Michael McClellan (Lewis-Young Park) – McClellan mentioned that Visitor dugout on field “A” is done. He also provided additional updates on the projects that have occurred in the park. Lastly he asked that the city send a thank you know to Mr. Kasitz at LHS for his work on the new dugouts.

Jack Kline (Forestry Manager) – None

Diana Moore (Rec Commission) - None

City Administrator – None

**Item 10: ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by Ernie Reinhart to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Michael McClellan. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting concluded at 7:24pm.

Submitted by Rusty Whitham